Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 IGA-02 AGRE-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /127 W

-----099815 181414Z /46

R 181217Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2340

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USEEC

USOECD

ALSO FOR USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, EPAP, ENRG, EFIN, US, NI SUBJECT: NIGERIA INQUIRES ABOUT PL-480

REF: STOCKHOLM 2964 (NOTAL) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUMMARY: NIGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS INQUIRED ABOUT MECHANICS AND POLICY OUR PL-480 PROGRAM WITHOUT MAKING CLEAR WHY IT ASKS. POSSIBILITY EXISTS NIGERIA MAY REQUEST PL-480 OR BARTER ON OWN ACCOUNT OR IN ECOWAS CONTEXT. END SUMMARY

1. MEA SUMMONED AMBASSADOR WITHOUT NOTICE AND GAVE HIM QUESTIONS

ON PL-480: DEFINITION, TERMS, COMMODITIES INVOLVED MECHANICS

CONDITIONS, CURRENT RECIPIENTS, WHETHER COMMODITIES CAN BE PROCESSED INTO FOOD PRODUCTS AND/OR USED AS ANIMAL FEED. ALSO ASKED WHETHER ANY QUOTE OIL-RICH UNQUOTE COUNTRIES ARE RECIPIENTS AND WHETHER PL-480 COMMODITIES AVAILABLE THROUGH BARTER.

2. ACTING ECON CHIEF AND AGATT LAST WEEK MET WITH MEA ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT HEAD AFOLABI TO LEAVE INFORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSES THEIR QUESTIONS. RESPONSES GENERAL AND PROVIDED EXAMPLES OF PL-480 PROGRAMS AND RECIPIENTS RATHER THAN COMPLETE DETAILS.

3. AMBASSADOR AFOLABI MAINTAINED THAT MEA ONLY SEEKING INFORMTION AS POSSIBLE GUIDANCE FOR NIGERIAN PARTICIPATION IN ECOWAS (THE NASCENT WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY), IMPLYING THAT NIGERIA MIGHT EVENTUALLY DEVELOP SOME TYPE OF AID PROGRAM FOR NEEDY NEIGHBORS. HOWEVER, HE ALSO WONDERED ALOUD IN BANTERING VEIN WHETHER NIGERIA COULD QUALIFY FOR PL-480. EMBOFFS OPINED THIS MIGHT BE DIFFICULT BUT REMAINED NONCOMMITAL, SAYING WE NOT RPT NOT FAMILIAR WITH CURRENT POLICY IN DETAIL. DURING CONVERSATION AFOLABI ALSO VOICED DISAGREEMENT WITH U.S. FOOD POLICY IN NORTH-SOUTH CONTEXT, WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC, AND COMLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARED OUR OVERALL AID EFFORT UNFAVORABLY WITH SWEDEN'S CITING AID/GNP RATIONS.

- 4. TOWARD CLOSE EMBOFFS NOTED THAT PL-480 NOT OUR ONLY FOOD PROGRAM AND MENTIONED USDA'S BARTER PROGRAM, HANDLING OVER ON REQUEST AGATT'S ONLY COPY USDA BARTER BROCHURE, 1970 EDITION. IN CLOSING WE OFFERED OBTAIN MORE DETAILS OUR FOOD PROGRAMS IF DESIRED.
- 5. COMMENT: UNABLE DISCERN WHETHER FMG INTENDS REQUEST PL-480 OR BARTER. IT HAS BOTH FOOD AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEFICITS AND ONLY COMMODITY

NOT RPT NOT IN SHORT SUPPLY HERE IS CRUDE OIL,
BUT THAT NOT RPT NOT UNLIMITED. ECOWAS ANGLE PLAUSIBLE IN THAT
ECOWAS HOLDING COMMITTEE AND MINISTERIAL MEETING HERE THIS MONTH
BUT WE DO NOT SEE HOW NIGERIA COULD SUPPLY NEIGHBORS WITH FOOD
UNLESS IT IS OBTAINED ELSEWHERE FOR OIL. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT
REVIEW ON CONTINGENCY BASIS POSSIBILITIES OF PL-480 OR BARTER
FOR CRUDE OIL. IF DEFINITE POLICY EXISTS FOR COUNTRIES LIKE
NIGERIA UNDER EITHER PROGRAM PLEASE ADVISE. STOCKHOLM REFTEL
REPORTED THAT NIGERIANS TALKING TO SWEDES ABOUT SOME SORT OF
EXCHANGE OF OIL FOR SWEDISH GOODS (POSSIBLY LNG TANKERS) AND

TECHNOLOGY BUT NO RPT	NO DETAILS	AVAILABLE
EASIIM		

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